

promising anything they cannot deliver. They have to make people comfortable with government, and that means producing what the citizens want. In more specific terms it means ongoing efforts to balance the budget and reform education, welfare, and other areas of public dissatisfaction. But there are limitations even to government reform. Reforms always fall short of their goals and the standard political reform agenda, while it may be worthwhile, does not solve all the problems.

Elected officials also have to do a better job of giving people basic facts. One recent poll showed that most Americans can't name their member of Congress or the Vice President, or believe, incorrectly, that more federal money is spent on foreign aid than on Medicare. In a time when there is an explosion of information, data and statistics, it's important to try to identify those facts which are more important than others. Each of us has to take seriously our responsibilities to make ourselves well-informed citizens.

I also happen to think that elected officials need to pay less attention to public opinion polls which now dominate American politics. The idea that elected officials listen to the pros and cons and then make judgments and go back and explain them is still a pretty good basic approach to government. Restoring civility in political debate can help too. No matter how much elected officials disagree with one another at the end of the day they have to sit down with each other and try to reach an agreement.

There also has to be a lot more emphasis on the many good things that are happening in our families, communities, and states. People everywhere every day act in such ways to restore trust, but it often gets little attention. This is not a time for handwringing, but a time to point out the good things, and build upon our successes.

#### CONCLUSION

It's important to remember in the end that we as a nation cannot thrive or survive without public faith in our institutions, our economic destiny, and our own values.

Three decades ago a majority of Americans believed that most people could be trusted. Today two out of three believe the opposite. We have to ask ourselves what happened to a nation of endless optimism, opportunity, and good heartedness. Many things have set us back: job layoffs and economic insecurity, crime and drugs, government scandals and policy failures. This will not be quickly turned around, but we must make the effort.

The other day I ran into a constituent who said to me he did not know the names of any of his elected officials. He could not name the Vice President or identify the majority party in Congress. He said to me, "I don't care. I just don't have time for it." I strongly suspect that gentleman does not have the right solution to our problems.

#### TRIBUTE TO STEVE JOHNSON

##### HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 1996*

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Steve Johnson who is celebrating 30 years of faithful service to the Baptist Church. Having served as the pastor of Mabel White Memorial Baptist Church, in Macon, GA, since 1984, Steve Johnson is a man who is loved by the members of his church and all those who know him. Through

his commitment to serving God and the church, Steve has touched and changed the lives of many special people.

Steve Johnson also deserves to be recognized for his outstanding service to the community of Macon. Serving on the board of directors for the Cherry Blossom Festival and the First Presbyterian Day School, Steve is working with others to make our communities happier and safer places to live and raise our families. I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to know Steve and his wife Connie for many years, and I am proud to call them friends. I hope you will join me in congratulating Steve during this special time in his life and for 30 years of unparalleled service to the Baptist Church.

#### THE ENTREPRENEURIAL INVESTMENT ACT

##### HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 1996*

Mr. BAKER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced legislation that will be known as the Entrepreneurial Investment Act. The legislation will make it possible for roughly 5,000 of the Nation's 5,300 bank holding companies to make equity investments in the customers of their community-based banks.

Business often needs equity capital to create new or retain existing jobs. This legislation acknowledges that a community banker knows his customer and is well positioned to invest some of his excess holding company capital in equity investments. Passage of the Entrepreneurial Investment Act will mean that communities will be better served by facilitating private sector economic development and job growth.

This legislation has been drafted in consultation with the Federal Reserve.

#### EFFORTS TO PREVENT POACHING

##### HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 1996*

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, wildlife poaching in Africa has reached such proportions that elephant and endangered rhinoceros populations have been decimated in several countries. The poaching goes on because of the demand for ivory and animal parts used in traditional medicine in Asia. At one time, wildlife conservation groups criticized the Republic of China on Taiwan for not doing enough to stop this traffic into Taiwan. The Government there has long since cracked down with strict enforcement and stiff penalties for offenders.

Now, they have opened a new front in the war on wildlife poaching. The Government of the Republic of China on Taiwan has just announced a grant to the nonprofit United States-based Wilderness Conservancy to purchase a special spotter airplane that will be used in Kruger National Park in South Africa, where game rangers will patrol with it to locate poachers before they do their dirty work. The airborne spotters will radio the location of potential poachers to rangers on the ground who

will apprehend them. Kruger is one of the world's great game reserves and has only recently begun to feel the threat of poaching. The Wilderness Conservancy is experienced in assisting antipoaching forces throughout Southern Africa, with spotter aircraft and a range of supplies and support services for game rangers and their families.

Saving the rhinoceros and elephant from extinction is dangerous, round-the-clock work. This generous gift makes possible a unique three-way cooperative effort between the people of Taiwan, a conservation-minded American organization and the men and women on the antipoaching front lines in South Africa.

#### THE LONG ISLAND ADVANCE'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY—PURCHASED FOR \$500 IN 1871

##### HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 28, 1996*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to congratulate the Long Island Advance for 125 years of dedicated service to the people of Suffolk County.

"The Policy of Honesty—The Might of Right and The Expediency of Principle," were words that appeared in large type across the top of the first page of the Advance when it was first published in September 1871.

Now, reaching the century and a quarter mark with its 125th anniversary edition scheduled for the first issue in September 1996, many changes have taken place in printing, personnel, and location, but the spirit expressed then continues today.

The Advance was the third newspaper to be established in Patchogue, Long Island, NY. The pioneer weekly was the Suffolk Herald founded by a Mr. Van Zandt and discontinued in 1865. In 1870, the Long Island Star was brought to Patchogue by John S. Evans from Port Jefferson. After a few issues it collapsed.

Timothy J. Dyson, a former newspaper correspondent and printer from Brooklyn, purchased \$500 worth of equipment that Auston Roe, a member of one of Patchogue's oldest families, had bought from what was left of the short-lived Star. Mr. Dyson, with this equipment from the remnants of the old Star, founded and renamed the paper the Advance. He set about keeping pace with the village of Patchogue, the town of Brookhaven, the County of Suffolk, and even Long Island as a whole, with bits and pieces of the entire world thrown in.

Communications then, not being what they are today, often left much to be desired. Editors were hard-pressed to get news, and sermons often took up a great deal of space on the front pages, because in effect, villages in those days revolved around the church.

Although the Advance suffered many ups and downs, and rapid changes of proprietorship in its earliest days, its course was firmly charted and for the past 103 years, under the ownership of one family, it has weathered many storms to sail a true course, constantly gaining in circulation. After 125 years of serving the community at large, it is one of Long Island's better known weekly newspapers.

Thomas S. Heatley purchased the Advance in 1876 but sold it in 1885 to Rev. S. Fielder